NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

WEEKLY STAFF NEWSLETTER
April 17, 1998

Staff and Volunteers' Sneak Preview:

ASSIGNMENT: RESCUE, The Story of Varian Fry and the Emergency Rescue Committee

This exhibit opens to the public on Saturday, April 25. This is your chance to see this compelling new exhibit before anyone else!

Friday, April 24
2:30 - 3:00 Introductory Video Presentation by Sophia Shaw (Exhibits) Classroom 1

3:00 - 4:30 p.m. all-staff sneak preview
Special Exhibition Center (off Stanley Field Hall)

Questions? Call **Sophia Shaw** (x849) or **Shawn VanDerzeil** (x531)

Education Department Progress Review
Thursday, April 23, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Lecture Hall I

All staff and volunteers are invited to attend the second phase of the Education Department's public programming planning process -- see how plans are developing for the fall and winter quarters (September - February), including overviews of the programs that are being developed. Add your comments, suggestions and concerns. Hope to see you there!

STAFF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

International POW WOW
Sunday, May 24, from 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

International Pow Wow, a gathering of approximately 5,800 international travel agents, is coming to Chicago for the first time in nearly twenty-nine years. Pow Wow will be a wonderful opportunity to show off not only our beautiful Museum Campus but also to impress the international guests with our Midwestern hospitality. The treasures of The Field should be promoted to this great international audience.

The Campus-wide event will begin at The Field Museum with food and beverages and big-name entertainment. You can participate in this lively event as a Museum host or hostess. You will have a great time meeting people from around the world.

In addition you will receive a denim shirt, a boxed dinner and an invitation to a thank-you party for Pow Wow volunteers in June. Please call **Patti Stratton** (x526) to volunteer -- and give your shirt size!

- With so many international guests, if you are bilingual it is a real plus -- but not required -- for host and hostess volunteers.

Submitted by **Patti Stratton** (with assists from **Carol Konieczny** and **Colleen Duke** of the Adler)

Earth Day is Right Around the Corner!

With the arrival of Earth Day this is a good time for us all to stop and consider whether we each, as individuals, are doing all we can to improve the quality of our environment. Home and the workplace are good places to start in this effort and following the rules *"Reduce - Reuse - Recycle"* on a daily basis is one way to make a big difference. Listed by order of importance, reducing the waste you create is best, reusing all items you possibly can is second best, with recycling always the last resort.

A few tips on working toward an earth-friendly work environment:

Try to reduce waste. Save some trees!! Don't make that copy unless you absolutely have to. If a memo is half a page long, fit two of them on a page when making copies. Double side xerox whenever you can.

Try to reuse materials. Use the back sides of old documents for note paper when a perfect piece of paper isn't required. Reuse old file folders. Buy recycled products.

Please recycle! If it can't be reused and if it is recyclable, *PLEASE* make sure it gets recycled and keep it out of the garbage and, ultimately, out of the land fills.

Why bother? sad fact is that the United States generates more garbage than any other country. In fact, each person produces almost one ton per year! And 90% of our solid waste goes to land fill. As a result, we are not only running out of places to dispose of our trash, but our present methods of disposal are causing *soil, water, and air pollution*. The problems do not end with the land fill issue, either. Considering paper alone, *water, electricity and trees* can be saved by paper waste reduction, reuse and recycling.

What's In America's Trash?

Paper 40.4% = 71.6 million tons
Yard Trimmings 17.6% = 31.6 million tons
Metals 8.5% = 15.3 million tons
Plastics 8.0% = 12.5 million tons
Food Scraps 7.4% = 13.2 million tons
Glass 7.0% = 12.5 million tons
Other 11.6% = 20.8 million tons

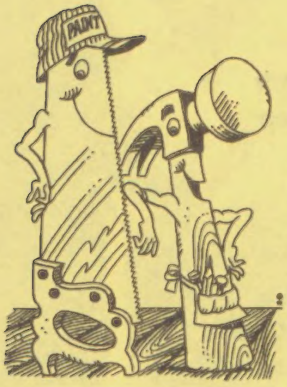
Total Weight = 179.6 million tons

Much of the above can be reused or recycled!

-- **Mary Anne Rogers,** Fishes

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions (in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via email to klyce@fmnh.org) is Tuesday at noon. Printed on recycled paper.

WORK ORDERS AND OTHER REQUESTS



As you may be aware, the Museum has been engaged in the remodeling, renovation and/or relocation of several departments. These changes have increased in intensity with the planned reopening of the Museum, as well as the official opening of the Museum Campus. Numerous changes have required that the Facilities staff attend to numerous tasks. This, combined with the task of maintaining the building, has impacted Facilities' response time to staff needs.

Facilities may not be able to respond as quickly as a staff member may wish, but be assured that we will address each and every issue in turn. I would ask that when submitting work requests you allow sufficient turn-around time. All requests should be directed to the Facility Planning and Operations office (x380). Thank you. -- **John Mazza**

Attention: Event Planners or Coordinators -- Schedule the Dock!

As you plan for your events, keep in mind that the loading dock can still be a bottleneck. There is no space in the loading dock to securely stage or store materials either before or after an event. To avoid problems, have material delivered to the Museum as close to the start of setup as possible and have the vendor provide us with a shipping list or invoice. Likewise, when you have materials sent down to the loading dock for pick up do this as close as possible to the arranged pick up time. Schedule this pick up immediately after the event. Make sure someone stays with your materials to sign off with the vendor that everything is being returned. By doing this, the loading dock is kept clear for normal operations and it is easier to maintain security.

Thank you, Public Services

Geraldine "Gerry" Havranek (our switchboard operator) was admitted to the hospital on Saturday, April 11, but is now recovering nicely from her illness. She expressed her appreciation for everyone's concerns and prayers. Please continue to refrain from calling as she continues in her recovery. If you wish, you can send cards or flowers to let her know you are thinking of her.

Geraldine Havranek
Christ Community Hospital
440 West 95th Street
Oak Lawn, Illinois

WELCOME!

Staff who began their employment in March

Alison Ash	Botany	Herbarium Assistant
Michael Conklin	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep
Howard Gray	Housekeeping	Housekeeper
Susan Jarold	Accounting	Accountant
Darwin Johnson	Housekeeping	Housekeeper
Kenneth Johnson	Security	Security Officer
Almas Khan	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep
Karsten Lawson	Academic Affairs	Administrative Assistant
India Swayze	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep
Glenn Trammell	Security	Security Officer
Val Walker	Finance	Secretary
Philip Willink	Zoology/Insects	Post-Doctoral Fellow

WELCOME BACK!

Staff who were rehired during March

Charlie Cho	Exhibits	Exhibit Preparator

CONGRATULATIONS!

Staff who were promoted or changed positions in March

	From	To
Rayfield Drake	Maintenance Coord./Audio Visual Dept	Computer Systems Specialist

GOODBYE AND BEST WISHES!

Staff who ended employment in March

27 yrs.-John Kethly	Zoology/Insects	Curator
John McClellan	Security	Security Supervisor
Tanya Stanton	Security	Security Officer
36 yrs.-Dorothy Roder	Tours	Manager
LeRoy Thomas	Housekeeping	Housekeeper

MUSEUM ATTENDANCE FIGURES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE INTRANET!

Information currently available includes:

Monthly attendance figures for May, 1921 through the present.
Daily attendance figures for 1998.

The attendance figures are maintained as Lotus spreadsheets. In order to view and/or print the information, you must have at least Lotus Release 5 on your computer.

To access this information:

Go to the Field Museum Intranet Homepage (Intranet1/).
Click on "Departments."
Click on "Finance."
Click on the appropriate link for the information you are seeking.

You will be given an option of either saving the file to disk, or opening the file. If you save the file to disk, you can open it, at your convenience, under Lotus. If you choose to open the file, Lotus will automatically be opened in order for you to view the file.

Questions should be directed to Jennifer Hill, Finance Department, X438.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

REGARDING BIRDS

The Field Museum was represented by no fewer than fourteen current staff members, graduate students and interns at the 1998 North American Ornithological Conference in St. Louis, Missouri on April 6-12. Attendants included Bird Division Assistant Curators **John Bates** and **Shannon Hackett, Peter Lowther** from Information Services, **Doug Stotz** and **Tom Schulenberg** from Environmental and Conservation Programs, and **Jeremy Kirchman** from the Biochemistry labs. Local graduate students included Amy Driskell and Keith Barker from the University of Chicago, Jose "Pepe" Tello and Bill Strausberger from University of Illinois, Chicago. Jorge Perez-Eman and Jaqueline Goerck from the University of Missouri, St. Louis presented results of their studies on evolution in South American birds based on DNA sequence data gathered in the FMNH Biochemistry Labs. Ten talks and two posters were given by Museum. Molecular data gathered in the Field Museum Biochemistry Labs was central to seven of these presentations.

A HELPFUL HOW-TO FOR WEB USERS

Here's a handy hint for anyone with Web access - bookmark the Museum's telephone list! That way you'll have it at your fingertips the next time you're searching for someone's extension (and they're too new to be on the printed list). You'll find the list on the Museum's intranet site. To locate it, in any open Web page, clear the location bar and type intranet1 with a return. That will take you to the home page for the Museum's intranet (yes, we have one!) Click on the phone list, and bookmark it once the page is on your screen. It's as simple as that. While you're at it, take a look at some of the other features our internal Web site offers, from information on Sponsored Programs, an on-line version of the Academic Affairs training manual -- to an audience survey of our visitors, and the beginnings of our digital photography archive. If you would like to add something for your department, please contact Tim Krauskopf at x735, or e-mail him at tkrauskopf@fmnh.org.

You may address an e-mail message to anyone at The Field Museum by typing his/her first initial and last name with @fmnh.org, for example: lbreslauer@fmnh.org

Environmental and Conservation Programs -- A MILLION THANK YOUS

To EVERYONE who helped make the activities devoted to the second anniversary of Chicago Wilderness such a success during the "It's Wild in Chicago" celebration. For their invaluable help in making everything run so smoothly we also thank the following departments: Audio Visual, Education, Exhibits, Housekeeping, Visitor Services, Security Services, Special Events.

We have received many comments and appreciation notes from Chicago Wilderness members, and of course, none of this would have happened without your help. So again, a heartfelt thanks to all.

TRAVELING BAKKEN RETURNS

Deborah Bakken, Anthropology research associate and Geology senior collections management assistant, recently returned from the Society for American Archaeology annual meetings in Seattle, Washington. She presented a paper on hunting practices at Paleolithic sites in China as part of a session that she co-organized on Pleistocene adaptations in remote regions of Eurasia. While at the meetings she also co-authored two additional papers on faunal and lithic assemblages from Panxian Dadong, a Paleolithic site in south China.

PARKING CHANGES -- FOR THE BETTER (at least on weekends!)

Since moving staff from the west lot on weekends, we have been assessing activity in the lot. As a result we feel that we can accommodate staff on both Saturdays and Sundays, as we previously have. Therefore, effective this weekend, April 18-19, staff may again begin parking in the west lot during the week-end day. To insure we can still accommodate our volunteers, we will reserve thirty volunteer spaces on Saturday and twenty spaces on Sunday. Unused spaces will be released after 11:00 a.m. With this exception, we will continue to administer the parking plan as we have in the past. Thank you for your patience and understanding during these changes.

Parking Reminder! Effective May 1, all staff must park in the Soldier Field lot on weekdays.

AAM MEETING

Staff who will be attending the American Association of Museums Annual MEETING in Los Angeles should try to attend an informational meeting with ***President McCarter on Tuesday, May 5, from 10:30 to 11:30, in Dining Room A.*** This will be preliminary to a meeting we will have sometime after we return from Los Angeles. General topics and plans will be discussed.

Fitness Class
Tuesday & Thursdays
5:15 - 6:15 p.m.

My family and I wish to thank everyone for their expressions of sympathy, cards, flowers, and the thoughtful contributions to Fourth Presbyterian Church in memory of my father, Harold C. VandenBosch. The genuine concern of friends and colleagues meant a great deal to us.

With deepest gratitude, **Susan VandenBosch**

VOICE MAIL TROUBLE??? It is important for all staff to be aware of voice mail capacity. When our system reaches 100%, no messages can be left for anyone. That means our callers can not leave messages. We seem to be reaching 100% every week. It is important that messages are deleted. We need everyone's help. So please make sure to "clean" your voice mail at the end of the day. ***Voice Mail Tip:*** You can pick up your messages from any touch tone phone. Thank you for your cooperation! Submitted by **Liz** in Public Services (x564)